

### **III. REMARKS**

- **STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 2-14, 16-38, 40 and 41, which have been allowed, remain pending in this application. The examination on the merits having been closed, no further amendment has been proposed herein.

- **Specification**

The abstract of the disclosure has been rejected as containing more than 150 words, MPEP § 608.01(b).

- **Applicants' Response**

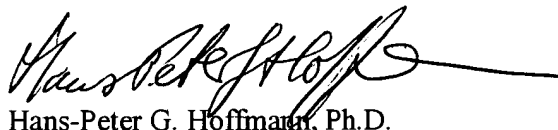
Applicant has replaced the abstract of the disclosure with a new abstract believed conformant with the requirements of the MPEP regulations. A replacement sheet containing the new abstract has been enclosed with this paper.

A good faith effort has been made to place the above – identified patent application in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants assert that this response is fully responsive to the Examiner's Office action dated October 19, 2006. Applicants respectfully solicit issuance of the Notices of Allowance and Allowability.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hans-Peter G. Hoffmann', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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